

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 305389

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SALE OF SEIZED HEROIN AND MORPHINE
TO PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES

REFERENCE: BANGKOK 32617

1. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE
TO ASSIST THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT (RTG), PARTICULARLY
ITS MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH, IN DISPOSING OF MORPHINE
BASE AND HEROIN SEIZED WITHIN THAILAND. AS ADDRESSEES
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MAY BE AWARE, MORPHINE BASE AND HEROIN CANNOT BE IMPORTED
INTO THE UNITED STATES. AMERICAN COMPANIES CAN, HOWEVER,
PURCHASE SUCH MATERIALS ABROAD AND EXCHANGE IT FOR POPPY
STRAW CONCENTRATES OR RAW OPIUM FROM FOREIGN FIRMS WHICH
CAN IMPORT AND PROCESS THESE REFINED OPIATES FOR LICIT
PHARMACEUTICAL USE. WE HAVE CONTACTED MALLINCKRODT

CORPORATION AND ASKED THEIR INFORMAL ADVICE AS TO RELIABLE EUROPEAN COMPANIES WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING HEROIN AND MORPHINE BASE MATERIAL. MALLINCKRODT RECOMMENDED TWO COMPANIES; A FRENCH COMPANY CALLED FRANCOPEIA, OF 58 RUE DU DESSOUS DES BERGES, PARIS; AND MAC FARLAN SMITH, OF EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND. WE ARE TOLD THAT MACFARLAN SMITH IS A SUBSIDIARY OF GLAXOS, A UK CORPORATION WITH INTERESTS IN NARCOTIC PROCESSING PLANTS IN AUSTRALIA. SUGGESTED CONTACT FOR THE FRENCH COMPANY WOULD BE GERARD DUMONT, AND PETER MACKENZIE FOR THE SCOTTISH COMPANY.

2. FOR GENEVA: WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE ANY UN ASSISTANCE TO RTG IN HELPING WITH THE DISPOSAL OF THESE SEIZED DRUGS. ANY SUGGESTIONS THAT THE UN MAY HAVE, PARTICULARLY THE NAMES OF OTHER PROCESSING LABORATORIES THAT MAY BE INTERESTED IN SUCH A TRANSACTION, WOULD BE HELPFUL.

3. FOR LONDON: PERHAPS DEDENEY OF HOME OFFICE COULD RECOMMEND UK FIRMS WHICH MIGHT PURCHASE MORPHINE BASE AND HEROIN.
ROBINSON

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